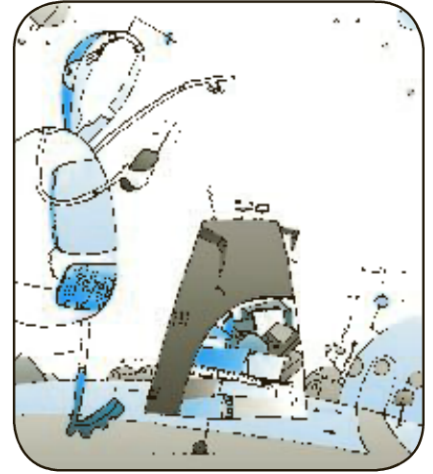


Subjects and Predicates 1

Careful writers write clear and complete sentences. A sentence consists of two parts: the subject and the predicate. The **subject** is the part that is doing something or about which something is being said. The **predicate** is the part that says something about the subject. In a sentence, the subject and predicate fit together to form a complete thought. (See 744.2, 746.2, and 748.1 in *Texas Write Source* to examine subjects and predicates in more detail.)



Examples

Simple Subject:

Marjorie owns a robot that carries her books for her.

(The simple subject is who or what the sentence is about.)

Simple Predicate:

Felicia's robot **will obey** all her commands.

(The predicate—or verb—tells something about the subject. *Remember:* helping verbs like “will” are often part of the simple predicate.)

Understood Subject:

Think about what a robot could do in your home. (understood subject: **You**)

(When the sentence is a command or a request, the subject is usually not stated. The person to whom the command is directed—“You”—is the subject of the sentence.)

Directions

In the following sentences, underline the simple subject once and the simple predicate twice. The first sentence has been done for you.

1. Robots work in homes, businesses, and schools.
2. In medical laboratories, robots handle hazardous materials.
3. At the General Motors Corporation, robots work on assembly lines performing tasks like welding and painting.
4. Most boring or dangerous tasks are done by GMC's robots.

5. Other companies use specially designed robots for tasks that require precision.
6. Robots explore sunken ships, distant planets, and active volcanoes.
7. Miguel's toy soldier is really a small robot.
8. Think of all the robot-like toys you own. (*You*)
9. Jeremiah dreams of owning his own robot someday.
10. Elena wishes for a robot to do her math homework for her.
11. I want robots for mowing my lawn, delivering my newspapers, and cleaning my room.
12. Maybe my teacher will be replaced by a computerized robot.
13. Imagine what the world would be like with thousands of robots. (*You*)
14. One of the stars of *The Red Planet* was Robby the Robot.
15. Have you ever seen a robot at work?
16. Our family's robot could get me a glass of milk.
17. Most robots in films and TV shows are not very realistic.
18. Can you name your favorite robot?

Next Step Imagine having your own robot. Write a paragraph describing what your personal robot would be like. Then draw an illustration to accompany your paragraph. Share the illustration and the paragraph with a classmate. Have your classmate check your writing for complete sentences.